THE STRANGLING AND DEATH OF THE GREAT *TVRKE*, AND HIS TWO SONNES.

VVITH THE STRANGE Preſervation and Deliverance of his Vncle MVSTAPHA from *periſhing in Priſon, with hunger and* thirſt, the young Emperour *not three dayes before having ſo commanded.*

A WONDERFVLL STORY, and the like never heard of in our *Moderne times, and yet all to manifeſt* the Glory and Providence of *God, in the Preſervation of Chriſtendome* in theſe troubleſome Times.

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HAud ſic magni conditor orbis,
Huic ex alto cuncta tuenti,
Nulla terræ mole reſiſtunt,
Non nox atris nubibus obſtat,
Quæ ſint, quæ fuerint, Veniuntque,
Vno mentis cernit in ictu,
Quem, quia reſpicit omnia ſolus,
Verum poſſis dicere ſolem.

Boetius Metro. 3. Lib. 5.

The Printer to the Reader.

I Am very loath to trouble you with a Preface, yet at this time you must pardon me; for it is for Gods cause, to exemplifie his glory & providence, that hath put an hook in the nostrils of Leviathan, *and kept him from devouring poore* Christians, *who yet are in Armes to devoure one another: that hath throwne a stone from Heaven to strike the golden Image to powder, which was stretching it selfe, to overlooke and overtopp the* Provinces *of* Europe; *that hath put an Axe to the great tree, and felld it at a blow, which was beginning to overspread the earth, and be a shaddow for the beasts of the field. What, all* Christendome *almost in Armes, and yet the* Turke *not to take the advantage, but to be pulld short by the hand of God, and throwne backward into a grave? Where are your dreaming* Gazettes, *and* Coranto's *now, that talkt of such formidable preparation, and so many hundred thousand in an Army? Where is the threatning of* Poland, *and terrifying the* Cossacks *with so many thousand* Tartarians? *Where is their comming into* Hungary, *to begin a new Warre there? What all hush't and quiet? Why, then thine be the honour O God, and all power, and maiestie, and goodnesse be attributed vnto thee? For thou hast taken putty vpon our afflictions, and wilt set vpright thine owne cause, when the children of* Edom *and inhabitants of* Babylon, *cry downe with the walls of* Ierusalem, *and insult with clapping*

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their hands, to see the enemies of the Gospell thriue in their outragiousnesse.

This then is all I would say vnto you by the way of Introduction, to giue God the prayse, that the great Turke *is dead so opportunely, whereby there is hope, that* Europe *shall be preserved from their inuasion, and those affrightings. And the same God, that hath compassionated the generall distresses of* Christendome, *take pittie likewise on the particular passions of* Princes, *that they rage not in their revenges, nor runne too violently forward in their race of bloud and destruction; but admit of peace and pacification to the eternall memory of their vertues, and worthinesse.*

THE STRANGLING AND DEATH, OF THE GREAT TVRKE, A STRANGE STORY.

THough I neede not speake a word of former Emperours of *Turkey*, or their actions, or their liues, or their *Alcharon*, from whence the speciall impositions on their Governerment are, first, to erect some Famous *Monument* toward the exaltation of their Religion. Secondly, and performe some memorable enterprise for the enlarging their *Empire*: yet must I name *Mahomet* the third, to keepe my selfe closer to the Story, that you may know the severall passages in the same. This *Mahomet* left two Sonnes behind him, *Achmet* and *Mustapha*; *Achmet* at 15. yeeres old was chosen Emperor, and lived some 15. yeeres longer, or thereabouts and although by reason of the peace betweene the Emperour *Rodulphus* of *Germany*, & himselfe, as also the contract betweene the *Polonians* & himselfe, wherin those *Antiqua fœdera* were renewed, he did little worthy of memory, concerning Heroijck enterprises, and military exploites: yet he had the Fortune to keepe correspondēcy with his *Bassharves*, and *Ianizaries*, and tooke a course by enlarging their entertainement, and other severall donatiues, to enlarge their heartes, and good liking towards him: so that he had very seldome mutinies, or innovation, because the *Viceer* of the Army drew them still into the field in the Summer, and the *Viceer* of the City, afforded them their Auncient liberty in the Winter: but at last there was a rebellion by the *Scrivano* of *Asia*, whom some confound with the name of *Bassham* of *Alleppo*, which was fortunately, and wisely prevented: and in the ende of his Raigne the controversies of the Princes of *Moldavia*, overwrought the *Polacks* to commiserate the cause. & wrought a mischiefe, which was not ended without vnspeakeable trouble: For the distastings beginning in *Achmets* time, could never admit of reconciliation, till *Achmets* Sonne came in person with terror, and threatnings into the fieldes of *Bogdonia*. Well

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Well? *Achmet* dies, leaving 2. young Sonnes behind him, *Osman* and another: yet some will presume to say, that being not aboue 34 yeeres old, he had many Children, and 300 Wiues or Concubines: but before he dyed, to make all sure, he resolues to strangle his brother *Mustapha*, and according to custome will leaue no Competitors in such an *Empire*. For which purpose a Guard of *Capagies* attend at the Iron gates of the *Seralio*, and the *Mutes* are placed in a roome accordingly. Now you must consider, that though they haue many wayes to enlarge their cruelties, and dispatch offenders, yet none is so affrighting, as the presenting of these Officers, for they never come along without death in their company, and ghastlines in their lookes. Sometimes an offender is carried from the *Seralio*, by the Officers of their *Tapinaco*, such as we say Mr. of the Ordnãce, ouer the Sea, & in the midway a great stone is tyed about his neck, and he is cast into the bottome, and then according to his greatnes, a greater Cannon is shot off, vnlesse the Emperour send a countermand; er he be from the water: sometimes an offender is beheaded: sometimes throwne off a rocke: sometimes set vpon by the *Ianizaries*, & cut in peeces, as the *Haga* or Captaine is limited, yet in these cases as the Emperors fury is leniated, they many times escape: but when the *Mutes* come in place, all are displaced, against whom their Commission is enlarged. Thus is *Mustapha* to be dispatched, but see how the stronger arme puts out the strong men? the same night *Achmet* had a *dreame* or fearefull *vision*, which some of the *Dernices* would needes presume to rumor abroad, in this manner; that hee thought as he was entring into the 7. Towers, the princely prison of his Predecessors, his brother kneeled downe before him, and cryed out, Oh when shal we leaue this horrible custome of shedding innocent blood? looke among all the Heathens, and see, how quickly they loathed and cast away that crying Sin of sacrificing of humane flesh? but in steede of replying he drew his Semiter to strike off his head, had not one as hee conceited held it fast, that hee could not strike; whereupon he demanded angerly, what art thou? I am the good *Genius* of *Mustapha*, and will not suffer him to perish, therefore leaue: and very shortly shall strange things happen in the *Empire*. Little thought the great Turke, to haue found a greater Greatnesse in his sleepe, but such was the power of God, or as

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the Turkes conceited the fortune of *Muſtapha*, that his brother *Achmate* contrary to all expectation the next morning after his Dreame, ſent for him into the roome of *State*, where he lay on as ſtately a Pallet, with all his *Viceroys* and *Baſhaws* groueling on the ground, and the principall *Mufty* kneeling before him reading on a booke. It ſhould ſeeme that glad tydings came firſt to the Citie; For hee was taken out of the priſon with great reſpect, and obſeruation: hee was admitted to his Gally with high ceremonies, and yet ſolemne countenances: hee was accompanied on the Sea with thouſands of boates, and tenne thouſand of weeping eyes: hee landed at the Emperours one *Caska* with great reſpect and modeſt ſtilneſſe: hee walked through the Garden of *Cipres* trees, and at laſt came to an iron gate, where his owne company left him, except two *Baſhawes*, who led him by the armes: the gate opens and he muſt through a gard of *Cupogies*, they bend to the ground, and yet looke cheerefully: till at laſt the Prince ſpake as cheerefully to the *Baſhawes*, ſaying What need all this quoile and ceremonies to a dying man? or tormenting of my ſoule, when I goe to the execution of my body? in all extremities there is a curteſie in diſpatch, and when a man muſt dye, Oh let him dye at once, and not be more tortured with the feare and circumſtances, then with the thing it ſelfe: they durſt not reply; but brought him into the roome, where the *Mutes* ſtood: whoſe preſence did no more appall him then the reſt, but that hee ſaw the cruelty confirmed, and their very ſight was worſe, then an vnreuerſable iudgement: but when hee perceiued no violent hands laid vpon him, and that he muſt yet goe further, he was the more aſtoniſhed, and the more vexed to endure ſuch a procraſtination.

At laſt he came where the Emperour lay ſicke on his Pallet, before whom his proſtitution was as the ordinary ſlaues: but contrary to all expectation he bad him riſe, and commanded certaine Perſian Carpets to be ſpread, & rich Cuſhions to be laid; on which, according to their manner, he ſate croſſe legg'd by him, and when the *Mufty* had raiſed the Emperor

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vp a little, with a faint voyce, he thus discouered an vnlookt for louing heart.

Brother (said hee) I am taught by story, and the story of *Galba* among the Romanes, to chuse a Successor for the common-wealth, and not an heire in my family. This made him looke vpon *Piso*, as worthy to be an Emperour, because hee had experience of his vertues, and not vpon his kindred, because hee was vnacquainted with their strength to beare so great a burthen: I cannot compare our greatnesse with the Romanes, but I am sure wee are too great for children, or fooles: I haue faire issue of my owne, but so weake armes cannot sway the Scepter of our *Othoman* family, and to leaue them vnder *Tutelage*, Who is there worthy to aduise such Princes, or what account can slaues make of the gouernment, when their owne vices shall ouerflow their bankes without restraint, and the enuie of others look vpon them rather with disobedience, then obseruation? therefore to auoid all tumultuous occasions, and to make thee beleeue, thou art the charge of our *Prophet Mahomet*: in steed of death-like presents it selfe in steed of a prison: this is thy Pallace, and whereas thou camst in groueling, thou shalt goe out triumphing: the decree of heauen will haue it so, and a voyce from heauen commands it so; only this I must conclude, that as I haue remembred thee, thou wilt not forget me and mine, let not custome ouermaster vertue, nor the iealousie in Soueraignty be an enemy to thy pitty: but let young *Osman* liue as I haue determined, thou shalt not dye: yea, the wonder is the greater, that of a captiue I haue made thee an Emperour, and in steed of the terrors of affliction, brought thee out to the rauishings of *Maiestie*.

He had no sooner done, but he began to faint, and so read them all a lesson of mortality by opening a booke, wherein they saw death writ in Capitall letters, and himselfe sinking past recouery, which made them recouer new Spirits, and presently bring his brother out into the *Sophia*, where the principall *Mufty* proclaimed *Mustapha* Emperour, intimating to the Ianizaries the charge of *Achmate*, to the discharging

larges, which equalling the bounty of other Princes, ouerswayed nicer exceptions, and so with great acclamations they ratified the Election, and cryed out, liue and raigne great *Mustapha*. The next worke was the solemnity of *Achmets* Funerals, for whom a sumptuous monument, and *Chappell* was erected, not inferiour to any of his Aunceſtors: then were Commissioners appointed to ouer-looke the *Seralios*, and sequester such women, as had beene carnally knowne of *Achmet* to their accustomed Pallaces, and accustomed manner of magnificence, and expences. Presently followed the setling of the *Bashawes* in their authority, in their seuerall Prouinces, and ouer-looking the Citie Officers with confirmation of such, as were worthy. Last of all, his Armies and Nauies were mustred, not that hee pretended any warre, but because he would commit no Solleciſme in gouernment, or giue the Souldiers occasion to suspect, that he knew not, how to maintaine his greatnesse: Thus is *Mustapha* Emperour, and they had two yeeres triall of his disposition, whereby they found him harmlesse, and rather subiect to the Epithites of quiet Princes, then transcending Encomions of great and stirring Spirits.

But oh the condition of man, and instability of terrestiall blessings! Prince *Mustopha* was scarce warme in this throne of Soueraignty, and setting forward in the rare of imperiousnes, before *Scander* and *Mehemet Bashaw* takes the young *Osman* out of the *Seralio*, and presents him to the Ianizaries, a comely, sweet young youth of nine or ten yeeres old, demanding withall, if such an heire of the *Othomon* family were to be reiected without cause, or why they should bring an harmlesse Prince (as they reputed *Mustapha*) into the danger of vsurpation, and differing no further from a Traytor, but that it was not imputed to him, as for *Achmats* Will? Empires are not so transiated, and what could they tell, but priuate men for their owne ends had wrought vpon his weaknes, making a diseased tongue speak that, which a healthfull heart, and perfect sence would not consent to: For it was not probable, that a Father would disinherit his children for any brother in the world: Besides, there was no triall, or cause either of insufficiencie, or disability,

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thing they saw, *Mustapha* himselfe was not stirring or strong enough to play the Steeres man in such an high built ship, considering the Seas were tempestuous, and many dangerous shores and rockes were to be passed by.

These speeches to the turbulent Ianizaries, were like fewell to fire, and the presence of the louely youth, made them amazed at their inconstancie: so that by way of penitencie and satisfaction, they quickly altered the acclamation of liue *Mustapha* into the cries of, God saue young *Osman*, and so without further disputing, hee was aduanced into the Throne, and brought into the *Seralio*, when *Mustapha* least thought of the alteration. But now there is no remedy, he must needs be deposed, and sent prisoner once againe into the seauen Towers; his friends more confounded to be so affronted, then amazed at the alteration: yet suspecting the worst, they abandoned the Pallace, and thinking it pollicy to shift for themselues, had the lesse honesty to neglect their Emperour: but the truth is, they saw manifest signes of a rebellion, and the conspiracie was too great and too strong for them to resist, which made them giue way to the violence, least they should haue beene caried headlong to destruction.

Now doth *Osman* begin his *Phaetons* flourish, and runneth the course of pleasures with his youth, spending foure or fiue yeeres in wantonnesse and iollity, while his *Bashawes* spent the time in couetousnesse and ambitious ouer-ruling others: yet not without carefull ouer-looking the Ianizaries, and prouident preuenting their discontents, and turbulent disposition: but all doth helpe; for they ouer accustomed to actiue imployment, and liuing vpon the spoile of forraigne Nations, as much as the Emperours entertainement, cried out to the warre, and when answere was made, that the Persians had contracted a new league, and the Emperours of *Germanies* old couenants were not yet determined or ended, They presently replyed, the indignities which the Russians had offered to their neighbours the Tartarians, were not to be endured, and they need goe no further, then the piracies of the black Sea, and the iniuries of the Cossacks and Polonians:

Nay,

Nay, why ſhould they not march to the expugnation of *Loepolis*, and the foraging of the Countries of *Moldania* and *Bogdonia*, and ſo forward to teach *Poland* a better leſſon, then to diſpleaſe the *Othoman* Family and mightineſſe.

The Baſhawes knew, there was no replying, nor now the fire was kindled no other quenching it, then letting it conſume to cinders, wherupon they preſently anſwered, they were glad that the Souldiers were ſo memorable of the glory of the Empire, and ſo ready to imploy themſelues for the dignity of the Nation, and therefore they would not by any meanes hinder them, or the cauſe: But they ſhould find the Emperor as carefull to ſatisfie their demaunds, as they were willing to augment his Greatnes: ſo that if they would giue way vnto time for the preparing of all things fit for the Army, and the ſending for the Tartarians to accompany them in the iourney, the Emperour ſhould goe in perſon into the Field, and *Poland* ſoone finde, what it was to exaſperate ſuch a Maieſty.

Whereupon ſome will haue it, that there were Letters of defiance preſently ſent againſt *Sigiſmond*, and the Warre proclaymed by ſound of Trumpet to affright all *Europe*: In what manner the Turke proceeded, I will not now diſpute, ſure I am that the King of *Pole* made all Chriſtian Princes acquainted with the threatnings, and implored their aſſiſtance for the Oppoſition: He ſent vnto the Emperour to hearken to a Peace, if it were poſſible, and correſpondent with his Honour, that he might ſpare his Forces rather againſt the generall Enemy of Chriſtendome, then the particuler reuenges of one another: Oh bleſſed be the feet of thoſe, that bring the glad tidings of Peace, and happy is that Princely diſpoſition, that would auoyde the effuſion of Chriſtian Blood: hee ſent vnto his Holines to remember the cauſe of the Church, and the affrightings of Religion, ſo that now was the time to aſſiſt him with men and money, and if euer *Poland* were reputed the Bulwarke of Chriſtianity, and to be maintained accordingly, it was at this inſtant to be looked vpon with the eyes of pitty and commiſeration. For 200000. Turkes and Tartars were in readineſſe to ouerrunne the Country, and deuoure the Inhabitants: He ſent into *France* by way of interceſſion to ſpare his hand frō taking ſuch fearefull reuenges on his owne people, & to ſpare him but thoſe

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bring to destruction: he sent into *England* with intimation of the terror, which so many barbarous Nations & people vnited, must needs afflict one Countrey withall, and his well deliuered discourse made such impression on his Maiesties Princely hart, that he had a present supply both of men & money: In a word, whether did he not send to set forward the enterprise? and what did he not doe befitting the goodnes of a King, & the greatnes of a Generall, and heroyick Captaine? his Army was soone ready, and his Cossaches prepared: by the end of Iuly he was encamped in the fields of *Bogdonia*, and within 8. dayes entrenched with 20. pièces of Ordnance mounted: but the Cossacks quartered by themselues, & after their accustomed manner lying betweene two Riuers, were the more emboldened to make their daily excursions vpon the Tartars: For hauing a bridge in the reare of their Campe, with which the Turkes were vnacquainted, they quickly transported their men, and as quickly endemnified their enemies.

When the *Gran Signeur* was made acquainted with the forwardnes of these *Polonians*, and vnderstood they were already encamped, and expected his comming, he was too young to apprehend any feare, & not olde enough to lay the blame of his retardance where it was: therfore they made the more hast, when he vnderstood the occasion, and so according to former preparation, the establishment of diuers Gouernments, the ordering the Prouinces, the setling the great Citty, the mustring his Gallyes, the guarding of his Castles, and the watching of the blacke Sea: the Tartars vnited themselues to his Army, & both together made a body of 200000. which with all magnificent preparation he presented in the same Fields, and within sight of the *Polonians*, where he pitched his Imperiall Tent, and setled himselfe with vnparaleld Maiesty: the high Priests and Doctors of Law attended him, the two great Bashawes accompanied him, the throng of Ianizaries waited vpon him, and the fry of Tartars brought the Cariages vp apace.

When all thinges were setled, the Tartars after their accustomed manner with great clamours and outcryes, and with as great multitudes gaue vpon the Polonians, and thought to haue made

made but one battaile & day of tryall of the busines, but when they came to passe ouer Riuers, and assaile Trenches, when they heard the thunders of 20 Pieces of Ordnance, and felt the mischiefe and damage: when they were encountred with 10000. well armed Horse, and driuen backe with the fury of couragious hearts: they knew not what to say, and lesse to doe; nay, though the Ianizaries came as a second vnto them, and brought many field Pieces to answer the discurtesie of their Camp Ordnance, yet by reason they had not the discipline of Gabions, they were subiect to the greater destruction, and the Souldier wanting Armor found themselues too weake for the Cossacks: whereupon they retreated, & were altogether appawled to be so disapointed, which whē *Scander Bashaw* perceiued, he tooke an opportunity of exprobrating their audatiousnes, and chiding their ostentation, whereas now they could performe nothing, which he did as some report to this or the like purpose.

Now, you that are so powerfull in insolency and tumults, and were so forward to the War, that we must either take the Field to spend your humors, and satisfie your impatience, or be taken by you, & suffer the indignity of your outrages, what say you now to the Warre? what can you doe to these men? nay, what will you doe for the Emperors Honor, and your own reputation? well, seeing you see by experience, that the times are changed, and the discipline of Warre must take you out other lessons of fury, leaue your foolish finding fault with your friends: and spend your courages vpon your enemies? there is now no retiring by Mutinies, but setting forward vpon aduantages, you must either force these Trenches, or be enforced to indure a slaughter: But I will now answer for you, what is past is remedilesse, we come to Fight, and I know, you are resolute to play the men, therefore follow me, and I will leade you the way to death or Glory: wherupon without any reply, they came forward with 50000. and vnder the security of a rowling Trench gaue a braue Camizado on the *Polonian* Campe, with many pieces of Ordnance, which they mounted vpon prety bankes, as the Pyoners cast vp the earth before them.

But as they were in this forwardnes the Cossackes came so violently vpon the vnarmed *Tartars*, that they were subiect to

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a great slaughter, so that both they and the Ianizaries were glad to retire with losse, and the young Emperor vnacquainted with the Warre, was yet acquainted with Oathes and Curses, to chide both himselfe and Fortune. At last the Bashawes seeing no remedy and finding so great obstacles of their attempts, proiected the preseruation of the *Emperors* person; but it may be to secure their owne liues, & so entrenched themselues, being (as they said) the first time that euer so great an Army of *Turkes* was enclosed within walles, by which occasion, necessity compeld them to confesse, they had new worke in hand, and that there was nothing so easie, as to cry to the warre, but nothing so difficult as to returne with Victory.

In this manner they lay all the Summer looking vpon one another with reuengefull eyes, and taking the aduantage of so many Sallies, that the Turke lost at least in seuerall Skirmishes 50000. men: For many times they met about the seeking of Victuall, and there fought it out: many times they encountred in forraging, and getting prouision for their Horses: many times their courages were so exasperated, that with equall incounters and appointed Sallies they returned home againe, finding the issue nothing but slaughter and bloud, and many times they determined to deceiue one another by taking the Riuers and passing the Foords, which ended not without destruction, and perishing of whole Companies. As for set Battails, or one dayes tryall by equall agreement of both parties, it neuer came to so formidable a busines, or remarkable aduenture: and therefore I can but wonder at the shameless reports of strange men, and weake Certificates by *Corantes* from Foraine parts, especially to haue them Printed, to talke of so many Thousands slaine, the Prince kill'd, *Sigismond* defeated, and the whole Army put to flight, when yet as I said, there was neuer any such matter, nor any set Battaile fought.

Yet although the *Polonians* had rather the better, then the Turkes, they did not runne away so fast with prosperity, but they were subiect to many inconueniences, and they sawe plainely the warres were no May-games: For they endued both Hunger and Colde, slacknes of payment, and their entertainment came many times short: The Noble

Generall

The noble Generall died in the Campe, the Prince lay ſicke of a Feuer, their horſe miſcarried, and other lamentable effects taught them extraordinary patience, which made them attend good conditions of peace, and when they found they might be entertained, they were not ſcrupulous or thought it any deſparagement to propoſe the ſame.

When the Baſhawes were thus diſappointed (eſpecially *Mehemet Baſhaw*) who was euer an enemy to the *Moldauian* buſines, and that he ſaw the yong Emperour euery way diſcontented, but eſpecially with himſelfe, as blaming his owne vnhappineſſe, that hee ſhould in the firſt triall of his manhood be ſo vnfortunate, as to open the doore of Chriſtian apprehenſion; that the *Othoman* fame was now at the higheſt, and the Turkiſh Empire ſubiect to diminution: hee went another way to worke, and perſwaded the yong Prince to make tryall of another time, and peace for the preſent: nay he did talke of another countrey, to which when the Turke angerly replyed, he would die firſt, hee enforced the argument that it ſhould be to his honour, and the *Polack* ſhould ſeeke it with great mediation.

It is ſaid, the yong Emperour ſhed teares, and was more afraid of his diſceputation among his ſouldiers, then glad of any pacification of the preſent troubles; yet neceſſitie had no law, and he was in the end compelled to the propoſed compoſition. But how? By a polliticke contriuing the buſines, and ſecret workings of more nimble ſpirits: for preſently a Prieſt of *Moldauia* was ſet on worke to go among the *Polonians*, and by way of generall complaint againſt the outragious effects of warre, to enlarge the happineſſe of peace, and inferre what a bleſſing it were to procure the ſame: whereupon hee was brought to the yong Prince of *Poland*, and commanders of the Army, with whom hee at laſt preuailed ſo well, and ſofarre, that they ſent a ſolemne Embaſſie to the great Turke, as he lay entrenched in the fields, to entreate a peace, and deſire the renouation of the *antiqua pacta*, which had been euer betweene the two nations. The Turke had learnd his leſſon ſo well, that hee ſeemed to make the

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matter ſtrange and of great humiliation, if he ſhould conſent thereunto, and rather a curteſie granted then a neceſſitie impoſed, and ſo deferred them awhile, till at laſt (as if he had bin ouer-wrought by the interceſſion and mediation of his Baſhawes) he was contented to capitulate the matter, and after many meetings, and a great deale of conference, articles were drawne, and confirmed with a kinde of ſolemnity, and proclaimed by ſound of trumpet in both the campes.

But ſee the condition of men, and the inconueniences that great Emperours are ſubiect vnto? for all the *Ianizaries* themſelues neither durſt, nor could maintaine the warre any longer, and were indeed affronted with an ouer-maſtring power, and an ouer-ruling diſcipline of warre: yet they rather complained of the Emperor, as being vnfortunate, then their owne cowardice, as being ouer-mated, and ſo brake vp the campe with a kinde of murmuring and repining. The great Turke tooke eaſie iourneys toward *Andrinopolis*, where he diſcharged the *Tartars*, and ſent moſt of his *Ianizaries* before hand to *Conſtantinople*. *Sigiſmond* king of *Poland* raiſed his army, and rewardiug the *Coſſacks*, diſmiſſed them home againe into their country: he went in perſon to *Leopolis*, from whence (by this time *Oſman* was come to the great cittie) he ſent a ſolemne Embaſſador to be there a Leiger, as it had bin in former times.

By Chriſtmas *Oſman* comes home, and had the accuſtomed acclamations of the people, with all the ceremonies of his returne, whereupon he goes in great pompe to the *Sophia*, and had the vſefull guard of his Court *Ianizaries* to attend him: but within ſhort ſpace many fearefull accidents appalled them all, and ſuch a miſchiefe followed, as they could not example by any preſident. Firſt, they were aſtoniſhed at a blazing Comet, about which many men did raue in the interpretation. Secondly, they were afrighted at a great fire hapning amongſt the *Iewes*, which they preſaged ominous to the gouernment. Thirdly, a ſore earthquake made their hearts quake for feare: but this is ſo vſuall in thoſe parts by reaſon of the aſcending vp the hills, and many Cauerns vnder

der ground, that they needed not haue made it, or taken it for any signe of displeasure. Fourthly, the Sea swelling extraordinarily, and the winde from the Southwest driuing the billowes into the corner of the harbour, made such a noyse and formidable sound, as catching the tackles of the ships and gallies in his whistling, that they were affraid euen of common accidents.

Last of all, and worst of all, by reason of the great concourse of people, and resort of strangers, such a famine happened in the city, and dearth in the countrey, that euery one complained, and though it was remediesse by the pollicy of man, yet was the fault layed vpon Superiours, and the Emperour himselfe did not escape scandall and calumniation.

For while the *Viceers* and principall Officers endeuoured the common good, and studied the Weale publike, which could not be done, but by discharging the Citie of multitudes of Inhabitants; all was interpreted to be done for their priuate wealth, and ambitious ouer-ruling of others: but when it came to the discharging of many *Ianizaries* and souldiers out of the Citie, to liue as it were in garrison in the Countrey, and that the Emperour was slacke in their Donatiues, and former allowances out of his Treasurie; they stormed beyond measure, and threatened the *Viceers* and *Bashawes* to haue a better account of the Businesse; crying out, they would not be quiet, till they were imployed in one Seruice, or other. To this the *Viceer* replyed, that hee wondered at their baseneſſe and audaciousneſſe, that hauing fayled in all their Enterprises, they durst yet complaine of any accident, more then their owne cowardize. As for the satisfying of wilfull men, they would not violate the Lawes of Nations, or infringe the contracted Peace with other Kingdomes, to appease the mutinies of turbulent spirits, who, if they might haue their owne demaunds, knew not what to demaund. As for your selues, what would you haue? you know the treasure is ex-

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hausted,& the dearth is so great, that we haue not sufficient to buy vs bread: and for your murmuring and repinings against the Maiestie of the Prince, as if he alone were branded with misfortune, or borne vnder some disastrous constellation; how can this be, that with the same hands whereof you boast to vphold the Empire, you will presumptuously pull it in peeces; but I see the reason, this is for lacke of discipline to make you know your selues; and so I cannot resemble you better then vnto stinking weedes and nettles, which crushed hard, loose their force, and cannot hurt at all; but gently handled, will sting and endamage one.

Till this they were not much enraged, but now no flames could exæstuate more then fury and rauings: for they dared to condemne the Viceeres, and cryed out on their childish and vnfortunate Emperour, that hauing neither sufficient wit, nor courage to gouerne the State, must be ouer-ruled by such, as made pollicie, couetousnesse; and ambition, the supportation of their greatnesse, and the commanding voice to do what they list, without controule: yea such was the refractary disobedienee of them at this time, that many offred to lay violent hands both on him selfe and his seruants, and had not the *Haga* or their Captaine come in to their pacification, they had questionlesse begun a warre of mischiefe, and insolent trouble.

Well, they are quieted all this time; the suspition of further vprores and mischieses made the whole citty to stand vpon their guard, and euery Bashaw strengthned himselfe with as many friends as he could, and the Viceer for securitie of the Emperor assembled the *Chauses*, *Cappogies*, *Spahies*, and *Ianizaries* of the Court to guard the *Seraglio*, and watch the passages. Now you must consider that there hath been euer enmity and emulation between these *Ianizaries* of the pallace and *Ianizaries* at large, whereupon when these vnderstood, that they were appointed for opposition, and saw plainly there was a deuise to single thē out, that so they might be brought in question for their mutinies: they resolued with *Herostratus*, that burnt the temple of *Diana*, to performe some

nefarious

nefarious and notorious outrage, to be remembred to poſteritie, or be regiſtred for an exorbitant action: and ſo in multitudes paſt beleefe, they ſet vpon the Emperours *Seraglio*, broke open the yron Gates, diſſipated the Guards, ſeized on the Women, tooke as many *Baſhawes* as they could: but the chiefeſt reaſon why they offered this outrage, is as followeth.

Sultan Oſman hauing taken out of the Treaſurie of ſeuen Towers a good quantitie of Gold, and being therewith paſſed ouer into *Aſia*, with reſolution to goe vnto *Mecca*: the great *Muſti*, his father in law, hauing laboured with all the greateſt of the Court, whom it pleaſed not at all, that their Emperour being ſo young, ſhould make ſo farre and long a Voyage; not being able to remoue him from his reſolution, as hee deſired, did in pollicy ſpread a rumour abroad, that the Emperour had taken ſo many Millions of Gold away with him, purpoſing therewith to make new Warres againſt his Enemies, notwithſtanding the ſmall ſatisfaction hee had giuen in the late Warres againſt *Poland*. Which comming to the vnderſtanding of the *Spahi* and *Ianizaries*, they riſe, and in a furie ranne vnto the Tower wherein *Sultan Muſtapha* was impriſoned, and taking him thereout, ſaluted him Emperour, who was lawfully elected by the father of *Oſman*. This comming to the knowledge of the young Emperour, hee ſent his *Grand Viſier* and the *Aga* of his *Ianizaries*, to appeaſe the ſame, who were preſently ſlaine by the ſouldiers in their furie. By which accident, the young Emperour, to remedie this diſorder, being forced to come himſelfe in perſon, was inſtantly made priſoner, and brought to the preſence of his vnckle *Muſtapha*; who hauing framed Iudgement againſt him, cauſed him to be carryed priſoner to the ſame Tower where hee himſelfe had beene priſoner, and the night following to be ſtrangled, with two of his ſonnes but lately borne: Which was moſt inhumanely commanded by *Muſtapha*, his owne vnckle; who for the more ſecuritie, to keepe the Empire from another vſurpation, cauſed it to be effected.

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It is also written, that although hee condiscended to deliuer into their hands all the chiefe men they required, which were the principallest of the *Ottomans* Court, who afterward were all slaine with the sword; though hee proffered them great gifts, yea to encrease their stipends, and other preferments: all could not auayle, to allwage the anger of the souldiers.

It is further reported, that the Emperour had giuen in charge to the Keeper of the Tower, that hee should suffer *Mustapha* to die of hunger, to auoid those disgraces and accidents which since are befallen him: and it seemeth hee had alreadie sustained some want of foode; for so soone as hee came to be set at libertie by the people, hee presently cryed out for Water, saying, hee was ready to die of thirst, and that if hee had not come out of prison when hee did, hee presently had yeelded vp his life, being (as hee said) wonderfully preserued by his God *Mahomet*.

When the young Emperour *Osman* was brought to his presence, hee kneeled on his knees, and craued pardon of him for his life, as heretofore *Ottoman* had done the like to him: but *Mustapha* answered, saying, that fauour I haue receiued commeth from heauen, and not from your hand.

Hee afterwards caused the Grand *Musti*, the great Turkes vnckle, to be put to death, who had formerly bereaued him of so great an Empire, and made him a *Masul*, which is as much to say, as a man deposed from his Office. Hee placed in the roome of the dead Visier, *Daut Pascias*, a man of great wisedome, and one that had demeaned himselfe well in matters of greatest importance.

It is also said, that the death of the young Emperour is very ill taken by the souldiers, for they desired the death of none of them, but that they might be reconciled, and gouerne them as their naturall Lords and Princes, as they best could agree; and the rather, for that by reason of the death of the aforesaid *Osman*, the whole race of the *Ottomans* is extinguished, if the two children are put to death, as is reported, for that Sultan *Mustapha*, now Emperour, is held vnable for generation.

Others

Others report, that Sultan *Osman* was not as yet gone ouer into *Asia*, but was vpon going, and that the *Mufts* and other his adherents not being able to remoue him from his resolution, did vse this but as a deuice to diuert him, casting this rumour among the people, *viz.* the *Spahi* and the *Ianizaries*, as is aforesaid, which happened to his ruine, and a declination and ending of the *Ottoman* Empire.

To come to a conclusion; neuer was so violent an act so suddenly performed, nor so quickly repented: For the *Ianizaries* stood amazed at their owne villanie, & by night there was not a man seene, that durst iustifie their treasons; for they fled for the present, no man knew whither, and those which remained, were afraid to stand for the glory of the House of *Osman*, but they would liue and die in the obedience of a worthy Emperor.

But how this vprore ceased, or tumult was appeased: what offendors bee taken, or how punished: what *Bashawes* bee slaine, or from whence others are admitted: by what meanes the Doctors of the Law came together againe, or whether they escaped; if you long to know, I long as much to informe you: which (if I may doe) I will doe, according to the next Certificate that comes.

FINIS.

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